

recorded. He was a most sound and
trustworthy botanist. You must now
be surrounded mainly by young workers,
of whom I am happy to advise there are
many growing up. My friends Stevin
& F. B. Forbes are inclined to work
hard - the former in California, the
latter in London.

With best wishes for your con-
tinued health, strength and hap-
piness,

I am, always,
My dear Dr. Gray,
Very sincerely yours
W. H. Hunt.

Hongkong, 16. June, 1884.

My dear Dr. Gray,

Some years ago I drew at-
tention in the Journal of Botany to the
fact that Hydrophyllum latifolium, Frisch.
furnished a very largely consumed, &
as I ventured to think, exceedingly nice
vegetable in this country; and I invited
my American fellow-students to ascer-
tain whether Zizania aquatica could
not be utilised in a similar way.
I have a hazy indistinct idea that
you wrote a discouraging note on the
subject, in Willimant's Journal, or
elsewhere, but I can't lay my hands
now on the source of my supposed
information. You did not requite my
philanthropic attempt to enrich
Translanted dinner-tables with a
promising esculent by the communication
of a copy of yr. note, & I am much
afraid that, after such a considerable
 lapse of time, you are not at all
likely to have a spare one at your

disposal, but I should, at any rate,
be very glad for the smallest cultiva-
tor's information on the subject. Mr.
Benthams - who is not likely to speak
lightly - distinctly asserts the identity
of the American & Northern Atlantic
grasses - (Journ. Jour. Soc. & Genera) -
and it is this affirmation which makes
me anxious to know something certain
about the latter, for there can be no
valid reason why the difference in
longitude should affect the essential
properties of the base of the stem.
We are all anxiously expecting a
fresh instalment of the Manual of
the Fl. N. America, and I trust this
invaluable book is getting on
steadily. I am surrounded with this
copies of a few of my papers on
the Chinese flora, which have just
reached me, both for yourself &
Mr. Watson, to whose liberality I am
indebted for the successive parts

of his Contributions to N. A. bot. It is
pleasant - isolated and aw - to find
myself borne in mind by brother botanists.
You will have been interested by the
detection of our two Podophylleums,
and also when I tell you that I have a
pretty new G. Ch. Papaveraceous genus, with
white flowers, closely allied to Sanguinaria
& Alyophrum. Certainly, the amount
of novelty in this part of the world is
most surprising.

I am recovering very
slowly from a most severe attack
of jaundice & gall-stones, from which
latter I have suffered most terribly. I
quite gave up all hope of recovery,
and am still exceedingly weak and
anaemic, having lost much blood.

I hope you will send me from time
to time any short papers of yours. I have
for many years past taken a very strong
interest in N. American botany, & our
affinity with your flora has naturally
developed this. I am very grieved to
see the death of Dr. Engelmann,